

State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
Division of Aquatic Resources
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

February 25, 2011

Board of Land
and Natural Resources
Honolulu, Hawaii

Request for Approval to Add Federal Funding (\$52,000) and Extend through FY12 an Existing Project Agreement (Contract No. 52851) between the Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) and the Research Corporation of the University of Hawaii (RCUH) for the Division of Aquatic Resources' Ulua Tagging Project

Submitted herewith for your consideration is a request to amend/extend an existing Project Agreement (Contract No. 52851) between BLNR and RCUH. Amendment No. 7 will add Federal funding and extend the project for its final year from July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012. This project provides data in support of the Division of Aquatic Resources' (DAR) mission for management of the State's fishery resources. Amendment No. 7 provides \$52,000 in Federal funds from a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Sport Fish Restoration grant; no State General Funds are being used. The State match component is provided by volunteer anglers.

Amendment No. 7 will allow DAR to continue use of RCUH's services to conclude the project. RCUH's assistance is required in order for DAR to meet project goals and objectives in a timely way.

The Ulua Tagging Project, which began on September 1, 2004, is a statewide volunteer angler-based fish tagging project. This final year will focus on analysis of collected data, which will assess species growth, movement and other parameters that can be applied toward management strategies for these species. In addition to tagging, gonad and otolith data will be used to complete maturity studies of ulua/papio. Information from this project will help develop sound management alternatives for this fishery.

Tagging of larger jacks by volunteer anglers will continue with information used to determine growth rates and to monitor species movements. It is estimated that ulua and papio data from approximately 2,800 volunteer anglers (an estimated 1,350 tagged fish), which will be added to the current database for analysis of abundance and size class recruitment patterns for the year.

The ulua and papio species account for the biggest recreational fishery in the state. With increasing demand, the supply of these fishery stocks may become jeopardized, and thus there is a need to promote management of the fishery.

Amendment No. 7 has been submitted to the Attorney General's Office for preliminary approval as to form. Also, Governor's approval to amend and extend the contract is being requested concurrently, through the Department of Budget and Finance for review and approval. DAR is aware that implementation of Amendment No. 7 is dependent upon receipt of all required approvals.

RECOMMENDATION:

"That the Board authorize the Chairperson to negotiate and, subject to necessary approvals, amend/extend a Project Agreement (Contract No. 52851) with the Research Corporation of the University of Hawaii for FY 12."

Respectfully submitted,



FRANCIS G. OISHI
Program Manager

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL:



WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
Interim Chairperson